AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Withdrawn) A liquid aerosol formulation comprising

at least one thermally stable active ingredient selected from the group consisting of buspirone, buprenorphine, triazolam, cyclobenzaprine, zolpidem, pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof and derivatives thereof.

2. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 1, further comprising an organic solvent.

3. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 2, wherein the organic solvent is a short chain (C_1-C_6) alcohol.

4. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 3, wherein the short chain (C_1-C_6) alcohols are selected from the group consisting of glycerin, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, propylene glycol, n-propyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol, butanol, ethanol, sorbitol, dipropylene glycol, tripropylene glycol, and hexylene glycol.

5. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 2, further comprising at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

6. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 5, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable excipient is selected from the group consisting of antioxidants, stabilizing agents, flavoring agents, solubilizers, cosolvents, preservatives and combinations thereof.

7. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 6, wherein the cosolvent is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, water, glycerol and diethyl ether.

8. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 6, wherein the solubilizer is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, isopropanol, butanol, benzyl alcohol, ethylene glycol, butanediols and isomers thereof, glycerol, pentaerythritol, sorbitol, mannitol, transcutol, dimethyl isosorbide, polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, polyvinylalcohol, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose and other cellulose derivatives, cyclodextrins and cyclodextrin derivatives, and mixtures thereof.

9. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 1, wherein the formulation contains 0.01 to 5% by weight of the thermally stable active ingredient.

10. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 2, wherein the thermally stable active ingredient comprises buspirone and the organic solvent is propylene glycol.

11. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 2, wherein the thermally stable active ingredient comprises buprenorphine and the organic solvent is propylene glycol.

12. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 2, wherein the thermally stable active ingredient comprises triazolam and the organic solvent is propylene glycol.

13. (Withdrawn) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 2, wherein the thermally stable active ingredient comprises cyclobenzaprine and the organic solvent is propylene glycol.

14. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The liquid aerosol formulation of claim 2, wherein the thermally stable active ingredient comprises zolpidem and the organic solvent is propylene glycol.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of generating an aerosol comprising:

supplying a liquid aerosol formulation to a capillary-sized flow passage,

heating the liquid aerosol formulation in the capillary-sized flow passage so as to volatilize a liquid component thereof and form a vapor which exits from an outlet of the capillary-sized flow passage, and

contacting the vapor with a gaseous medium so as to form an aerosol,

wherein the liquid aerosol formulation includes at least one thermally stable active ingredient selected from the group consisting of buprenorphine, pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the gaseous medium comprises air, and the aerosol comprises ~~particles of the~~ propylene glycol-containing particles having an MMAD of less than 3 μm.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the thermally stable active ingredient comprises buspirone and the aerosol comprises buspirone articles having an MMAD of less than 3 μm.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 17~~ claim 15, wherein the aerosol comprises buprenorphine particles having an MMAD of less than 3 μm.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the thermally stable active ingredient comprises triazolam and the aerosol comprises triazolam particles having an MMAD of less than 3 μm.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the thermally stable active ingredient comprises cyclobenzaprine and the aerosol comprises cyclobenzaprine particles having an MMAD of less than 3 μm.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the thermally stable active ingredient comprises zolpidem and the aerosol comprises zolpidem particles having an MMAD of less than 3 μm.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein ~~the flow passage is a capillary-sized flow passage and~~ the aerosol is formed in a mouthpiece of a handheld inhaler.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein ~~the liquid aerosol formulation contains at least one thermally stable active ingredient and~~ the aerosol includes particles of the thermally stable active ingredient having an MMAD of 0.1 to 2.5 μm.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the capillary-sized flow passage is heated by a resistance heater located in a handheld inhaler, the hand-held inhaler including a power supply and control electronics which controls supply of electrical power to the resistance heater as a function of a resistance target in a range of 0.5 to 1 ohm.

26. (Currently Amended) An aerosol generator comprising:

a liquid supply providing a liquid aerosol formulation comprising at least one thermally stable active ingredient selected from the group consisting of buprenorphine, pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof and derivatives thereof;

a capillary-sized flow passage ~~adapted to receive~~ in fluid communication with ~~a~~ the liquid aerosol ~~generating~~ formulation from ~~a~~ the liquid supply~~, the liquid aerosol formulation comprising at least one thermally stable active ingredient selected from the group consisting of buprenorphine, pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof and derivatives thereof~~; and

a heater operable to heat the liquid aerosol formulation in at least a portion of the capillary-sized flow passage sufficiently to vaporize the liquid aerosol formulation and generate an aerosol containing the active ingredient.

27. (Currently Amended) The aerosol generator of claim 26, wherein the aerosol generator ~~comprises~~ is a hand-held inhaler having a mouthpiece, wherein the capillary-sized flow passage ~~comprising a capillary sized flow passage having~~ has an outlet in fluid communication with an interior of the mouthpiece.

28. (Currently Amended) The aerosol generator of claim 26, wherein the heater is a resistance heater comprising a section of a metal capillary tube,

and the capillary-sized flow passage comprises the interior of the metal capillary tube.

29. (Currently Amended) The aerosol generator of claim 26, wherein the aerosol generator ~~comprises~~ is a hand-held inhaler having a power supply and control electronics which controls supply of electrical power to the heater as a function of a control parameter selected to achieve boiling of the liquid aerosol formulation in the capillary-sized flow passage.

30. (Currently Amended) The aerosol generator of claim 26, wherein the liquid supply comprises a reservoir containing the liquid aerosol formulation under a pressure of no greater than about atmospheric pressure.